

opc Bulletin

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB OF AMERICA, NEW YORK, NY • JANUARY 2008

New Book Links Versailles Treaty to Modern Turmoil

OPC EVENT PREVIEW: JAN. 15

by Sonya K. Fry

In 1919 world leaders gathered in Paris for the Treaty of Versailles, where they engaged in tough debates and hard partying, and changed the course of history to the present day. The treaty had a profound impact on the Far East, the Balkans, the Middle East and in particular Iraq.

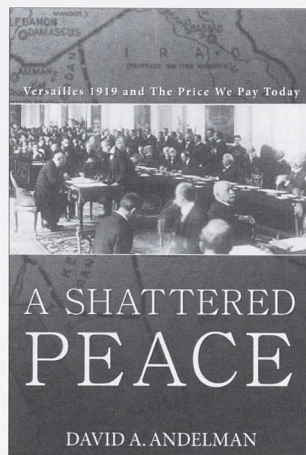
OPC member David Andelman's book, *A Shattered Peace: Versailles 1919 and the Price We Pay Today*, will be the topic of the next OPC Book Night, Tuesday, January 15. Andelman is a veteran foreign correspondent who turns the spotlight on the many errors committed by the peacemakers that led to crises and bloodshed from Algeria to Kosovo and wars from Israel to Vietnam. He traces the outcome of the deliberations through the history of the twentieth century and into the twenty-first.

Andelman also paints a vivid picture of the glittering social whirl that accompanied the negotiations: Elsa Maxwell threw her first party; young Franklin Roosevelt flirted with Parisian widows to the humiliation of his wife Eleanor; princesses and young gentlemen danced gaily to the hot new sound of American jazz. All of this is a back-

drop to the real work of the conference which was to divide up territories and cement national positions as leading powers for decades to come.

Currently executive editor of *Forbes.com*, Andelman has reported from more than fifty countries as a foreign correspondent for *The New York Times* and CBS News. He has also served as Washington correspondent for CNBC, senior editor of Bloomberg News and business editor of *New York Daily News*. He is also a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

A conversation with David Andelman will be led by OPC member Craig Whitney, assistant managing editor of *The New York Times*.



A book jacket blurb by Richard Holbrooke deals with how the historic ramifications implode on the world today: *The peace settlements that followed World War I have recently come back into focus as one of the dominant factors shaping the modern world. The Balkans, the Middle East, Iraq, Turkey, and parts of Africa all owe their present-day problems, in part, to these negotiations. David Andelman brings it all back to life – the lofty ideals, the ugly compromises, the larger-than-life personalities who came to Paris in 1919. And he links that far-away diplomatic dance to present-day problems to illuminate our troubled times.*

This Book Night on Tuesday, January 15 is in cooperation with the World Policy Institute. Books will be for sale and signing. A reception begins at 6 p.m. with the conversation at 6:45 p.m. at Club Quarters, 40 West 45 Street.

Moyers Speaks on the State of Journalism

by Bill Holstein

Bill Moyers delivered a painful message about the state of the American media to a packed house at the Paley Center for Media. It was a message difficult to ignore.

The veteran television anchorman and documentary maker argued the American media is increasingly dominated by business conglomerates with scarce interest in the values of journalism. The press also is increasingly driven with ideology. As a result of these realities, United States news organizations didn't do a good enough job of questioning the Bush Administration's rush to go to war in Iraq, Moyers said.

In remarks delivered in conversation with Paley Center President Pat Mitchell, Moyers decried the fact that the media is dominated by just six or seven companies.

"The press has grown more and more a part of huge conglomerates that have an interest in Washington," Moyers said. These conglomerates have an interest in tax policy, regulation of the broadcast and cable industries, environmental rules and the like. Moyers argued that reporters who work for the conglomerates are muzzled in terms of what they can and cannot write about.

(Continued on Page 2)

Inside . . .

Q&A With Naka Nathaniel	3
Tree Lighting Photos	4
OPC Foundation Luncheon	4
People	5-9
People Remembered	9-10
Press Freedom Committee	10
New Books	12

Bill Moyers Speaks on State of Conglomerate Journalism

(Continued From Page 1)

He noted that Chicago billionaire Sam Zell was able to buy the *Chicago Tribune* partly because of favorable tax rulings from the Internal Revenue Service. "So the *Chicago Tribune* doesn't want its journalists digging at the IRS," he said. "The news business is now more about business than about the news."

Moyers, who spent several years as press secretary for President Lyndon B. Johnson, said editors and reporters worried about losing access to the Bush Administration were reluctant to ask hard questions and were therefore partly to blame to America's slide into the Iraq War, much as the nation became enmeshed in Vietnam. "I could see the Bush Administration making the same mistakes we did," Moyers said. "We wanted to keep out any information that was contrary to our ambitions in Vietnam."

The Associated Press and Knight-Ridder, in his view, carried realistic and provoking coverage in the run-up to the war, but local editors at newspapers around the country refused to print those stories.

"They believed Bush," he said and didn't believe what AP or Knight-Ridder reporters were writing.

Very few media organizations



Photo: Doug Goodman

Bill Moyers spoke with Paley Center President Pat Mitchell about the present state and future of journalism in a growing corporate climate.

escaped Moyers' tongue-lashing; Judith Miller of *The New York Times*, whose reporting on weapons of mass destruction in Iraq helped build support for the invasion, "was a stenographer for the neo-conservatives in Washington."

Moyers said Roger Ailes has an overtly political agenda for Fox News. "He sees Fox News as an agent in advancing the interests of the Administration," Moyers alleged.

Moyers said he was worried about the Federal Communications Commission's efforts to relax rules

against cross-ownership in local markets, which would allow large media companies to control multiple newspapers and broadcast outlets. He is also concerned about the issue of "net neutrality," in which large telecommunications companies are arguing that they have no responsibility to open their networks to multiple voices.

Moyers said that if large companies are able to dominate the Internet, the Web will lose its democratic and pluralistic quality, much like television, radio and cable television.

OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB OF AMERICA • BOARD OF GOVERNORS

PRESIDENT

Marshall Loeb
Senior Columnist
& Correspondent
MarketWatch from
Dow Jones

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

Dorinda Elliott
Deputy Editor, Special
Projects
Conde Nast Traveler

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

Allan Dodds Frank
Reporter
Bloomberg Television

THIRD VICE PRESIDENT

Jane Ciabattari
Author/Journalist

TREASURER

Marcy McGinnis
Director, Broadcast
Journalism
Stony Brook University

SECRETARY

Jacqueline Albert-Simon
US Bureau Chief
Politique Internationale

ACTIVE BOARD

Marcus Brauchli
Managing Editor
The Wall Street Journal

Angela Burt-Murray
Editor in Chief
Essence Magazine

Roger Cohen
International Writer at Large
The New York Times

George de Lama
Managing Editor, News
Chicago Tribune

Robert Dowling
Visiting Professor
Tsinghua University
Beijing

Frederick Kempe
President & CEO
The Atlantic Council

Jim Laurie
Director, Broadcast
Journalism
University of Hong Kong

Marcus Mabry
International Business
Editor
The New York Times

John R. MacArthur
Publisher
Harper's Magazine

Cait Murphy
Assistant Managing Editor
Fortune

Michael Serrill
Senior Editor
Bloomberg Markets

Calvin Sims
Program Officer,
News Media
The Ford Foundation

Sree Sreenivasan
Dean of Students and
Professor
Columbia Graduate School
of Journalism

ACTIVE ALTERNATES
Maggie Murphy
Assistant Managing Editor
People

Richard Levine
Managing Director,
Editorial Operations
Conde Nast Publications

Robert Teitelman
Editor in Chief
The Deal

ASSOCIATE BOARD MEMBERS

Yvonne Dunleavy
Author/Journalist

Kathleen Hunt
United Nations
Representative
Care International

Minky Worden
Media Director
Human Rights Watch

ASSOCIATE ALTERNATE
David Fondiller
Director of Media Relations
The Boston Consulting
Group

PAST PRESIDENTS EX-OFFICIO

John Corporon
Alexis Gelber
William J. Holstein
Larry Martz
Barrett McGurn
Roy Rowan
Leonard Saffir
Larry Smith
Richard B. Stolley

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Sonya K. Fry

EDITOR
Aimee Rinehart

OPC Bulletin

ISSN-0738-7202 Copyright
© 2002
Overseas Press Club
of America

40 West 45 Street, New York, NY 10036 USA • Phone: (212) 626-9220 • Fax: (212) 626-9210 • Website: opcofamerica.org

Q&A With Naka Nathaniel

Naka Nathaniel started his journalism career as an intern with *The New York Times* graphics department in 1995. That same year, he joined the team that started the online edition of *The Times*. He has traveled all over the world, creating multimedia features for the Web site and working regularly with *Times* columnist and OPC member **Nicholas Kristof**. He has been based in New York and Paris, and currently resides in Los Angeles. *Bulletin* editor Aimee Rinehart spoke with Naka recently via e-mail.



Naka in Kabul in early 2007.

OPC: Did you learn about the Web in journalism classes at the University of Texas?

NAKA NATHANIEL: I learned the bits and pieces of what would become multimedia journalism at the University of Texas, but the notion of Web journalism hadn't been codified. Austin was a wonderful learning environment. I practiced my first love, print, at the *Daily Texan* covering cops and courts and then state and city government. I was able to pick up the broadcast skills as part of my academic studies. I learned to edit audio as part of an NPR program that was overseen by Gale Wiley. I learned the camera from Cory Kirk while working at the state capitol covering the first legislative session during George W. Bush's governorship of Texas. When I was asked what I wanted to do after graduation, I answered "computers and journalism." This response earned me a dismissive look. The pieces were there — all I needed was for the Internet to arrive and it did roughly six months later.

I spent a week back at UT in November guest lecturing. Rosental Calmon Alves and other members of the UT journalism faculty are building the multimedia program, but they're struggling to keep up with the changes in journalism. It's more than ten years on and it's disappointing to see how a lot of university journalism programs aren't properly preparing their students. It's not just Texas, you can say that of just about any school out there. I'm startled at the number of students who are content with learning just print skills and who harbor an aversion to multimedia. The handful of students with serious multimedia skills are the ones getting great jobs at great places. The students who have computer science skills on top of their journalism skills are courted and coveted.

OPC: How did you get to The New York Times Web site?

NATHANIEL: I started at *The Times* in June 1995 as an intern on the graphics desk. The graphics editor said he liked my print portfolio because I had infographics, charts and maps for the stories I had written. It showed that I wasn't just a designer or artist and that I could report. That was great for me because I'm not much of an artist. I hadn't realized the importance of reporting for graphics. I had been doing it because it was helping me tell my stories.

The Web site didn't exist when I started, but by the end of the summer there was a team starting to lay the groundwork for nytimes.com. Since I had used the Web for some of the graphics reporting, it was natural that I shifted over to work with Bernie Gwertzman and Kevin McKenna. Initially, I worked on @times, which was the NYT on AOL. The site proper wasn't

launched until January 1996. I was excited to be in on something at the beginning.

OPC: You were one of the first persons from the Web site to travel abroad for the Olympics in Australia in 2000. How did you approach the job?

NATHANIEL: I had been working closely with the sports desk for a couple of years leading up to Sydney so I was excited to be a part of the team. The *Times* sent a number of reporters, columnists and photographers to the Olympics and the Web site wanted to have someone there to make sure we could take advantage of the opportunity. The kicker was the time difference. There was no way it would've worked out as well as it did if we had done everything from New York. I had a great team backing me up in New York and I worked my tail off while I was there. I was once caught sleeping under a desk in the bureau by George Vecsey. I have very warm memories of that time and of my colleagues. As a result, a lot of the early multimedia work on nytimes.com was sports related. I developed relationships with reporters and photographers and they were willing to be participants in the experiment.

OPC: In 2002, you were again a first for the Web newsroom in moving to Paris. How did this move impact your work?

NATHANIEL: Well, the move to Paris had really nothing to do with expanding the global reach of nytimes.com. My wife, Meredith Artley, left nytimes.com to take over the reins of the Web site of the *International Herald Tribune* and the folks at nytimes.com were good enough to trust in the plan that we had sketched out. The multimedia work at nytimes.com was really coming into its own at that point and my team was doing some fantastic work in the wake of September 11. Being in Paris meant that I was well positioned to cover the Iraq invasion in 2003. My editor at the time, Len Apcar, was very trusting and encouraged the initiatives we wanted to start.

OPC: You've been traveling and reporting with Nicholas Kristof all over the world. How do you create an online companion piece without duplicating his columns?

NATHANIEL: Nick Kristof and I first started working together during the invasion. We were both working near the entrance to the bureau in Kuwait, so visitors were introduced to "Nick and Naka" shortly after they walked through the door. This drew a number of curious looks from Arabic speakers. Later we were told that pronouncing Nick's name in Arabic was the same as dropping an F-bomb and saying my name was the past tense

(Continued on Page 11)

Rockefeller Tree Lighting and OPC Fundraiser, Well Mixed

Getting into Rockefeller Center – an elaborate crawl through the innards of the building on up to the seventeenth floor where Ford Motor Company has its New York office – was well worth the effort.

The OPC Fundraiser had 45 people at the event held in the Ford Motor Company offices. Each office had a table filled with tasty appetizers and the main room had a large bar with plenty of cocktails served.

The Ford Motor Company office provides an eagle-eye view of the tree and the crowds below. If you haven't made it to a tree lighting before, this is the way to do it. It's a great way to start off the holiday season,

avoid the crowds and weather, and support the OPC and connect with members.

— by Aimee Rinehart



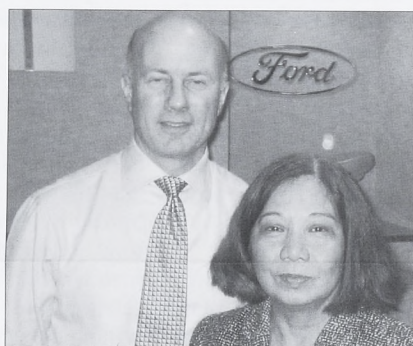
Ann and Tom Charters enjoy the party.

Photo: Aimee Rinehart



Photo: Jane Reilly

Celebrating at the tree lighting party from left to right: Roy Rowan, Allan Dodds Frank, Norman Schorr, Thelma Schorr and Helen Rowan.



Bill Collins of Ford Motor Company and Boots Duque of the OPC.

Photo: Aimee Rinehart



Photo: Aimee Rinehart

Bulletin contributing writer Darren Taffinder with his wife, Trisha Brandon.

OPC Foundation Doubles Internships, Gears Up for Annual Luncheon

by Jane Reilly

Bill Holstein, president of the Overseas Press Club Foundation, announced that the Foundation's program for journalism students interested in careers as foreign correspondents is doubling the size of its internship program. Already awarding twelve \$2,000 scholarships in the name of prominent journalists each year, the Foundation is partnering with media organization to fund internships in foreign bureaus. The internship program started in 2006 when the Foundation paid the expenses of Ayesha Akram, of Columbia Journalism School, to spend one month in the Bangkok bureau of the Associated Press. She was in Thailand when the coup d'état occurred that summer and contributed to the bureau's coverage.

This summer, the Foundation sent

Berkeley graduate student Ben Hubbard to the AP's Jerusalem bureau, Katie Paul (Vassar) to Reuters' Buenos Aires bureau, and Jeremy Gantz (Northwestern) to *Cambodia Daily*, the English-speaking newspaper in Phnom Penh.

"In 2008, we hope to increase the number of OPC Foundation-funded internships to at least six," Holstein said. "Besides increasing the size of the program with our current partners, we are working with media outlets in India, Hong Kong and Taipei."

The Foundation picks up the cost of the airfare and one month's living expenses for the winners. Each of this year's interns used their own funds to extend their stays to two and three months within the region.

"These young people now have

experience on the ground and they have clips," Holstein said. "Those early steps are often the hardest. The power of these internships is huge – far greater than I envisioned when we first started down this path."

The 2008 OPC Foundation Scholarship Luncheon will take place on Friday, February 15 at the Yale Club. The Foundation relies on individual and corporate support of its annual luncheon to fund the internship program. Tables of 10 are \$5,000 for Patrons and \$2,000 for Friends. Individual tickets are \$75 for OPC members and \$100 for non-members.

The speaker for the 2008 scholarship luncheon will be announced shortly. For more information, go online at www.overseaspressclubfoundation.org or call Jane Reilly at (201) 493-9087.



PEOPLE...with Al Kaff

GORDON CURRIE/BILL SHINN

Best wishes to all our readers for a Happy New Year.

GLOBAL: Want to learn how to create a multi-media Web documentary while working like a foreign correspondent? Then contact OPC member **Andrew Ciofalo**, communications professor at Loyola College in Baltimore (aciofalo@loyola.edu). He offers a four-week summer study program in Cagli, Italy, and Armagh, Northern Ireland, during which media professionals teach students how to write for the Web, how to take digital photos, how to shoot and edit video, how to design Web pages and related skills. Students can earn six communications transfer credits. Ciofalo has directed the program in Italy for several years and has recently added Northern Ireland, sites he calls "unspoiled settings far off the beaten tourist track in a program that uniquely combines media convergence and cultural immersion for the ultimate in experiential learning." The program is described in the Web site: www.ieimedia.com



AP correspondents on the move: **William Foreman** from Hong Kong to Guangzhou, China; **Kevin Frayer**, Gaza to Jerusalem; **Ravi Nessman**, Jerusalem to Colombo, Sri Lanka; **Christopher Bodeen**, Shanghai to Beijing; and **Flora Charner**, United States to Rio de Janeiro. Retiring from AP: **Hank Ackerman**, a former bureau chief in Central America, after 35 years with AP; and 42-year-veteran **George Gedda**, a U.S. State Department correspondent who accompanied secretaries of state to some 85 countries and made 26 reporting trips to Cuba.

ATLANTA: At a cost of almost \$10 million, CNN Worldwide is enlarging its international operations and adding ten to fifteen correspondents to its staff of 150, the network announced in November. CNN will expand its bureau in the United Arab Emirates; hire correspondents in Johannesburg and Mexico

City; and open operations in Afghanistan, Belgium, India, Kenya, Malaysia, Nigeria, Philippines, Poland and Vietnam. The expansions were announced after CNN cancelled its news contract with Reuters while increasing production of its own reports.



Hussein's 2005 photo of U.S. soldiers searching an Iraqi family.

BAGHDAD: **Bilal Hussein**, a Pulitzer Prize AP photographer, was turned over to Iraq's criminal justice system in November by the U.S. military that accused him of aiding the insurgency. Major Brad Leighton, a U.S. military spokesman said Hussein was detained after soldiers on a routine search of his apartment found explosive devices, insurgency propaganda and surveillance photos of an American installation. He has been detained since April 2006 without charges. **Tom Curley**, AP's president and CEO, wrote a long dispatch defending Hussein. "We believe Bilal's crime was taking photographs the U.S. government did not want its citizens to see," Curley, an OPC member wrote. "But the military won't tell us what the charges are, what evidence it will be submitting or even when the hearing will be held."

Kathleen Carroll, executive editor of AP, told *The New York Times* in an interview, "We believe that Bilal Hussein has been singled out because of his work as a journalist." Hussein was part of an 11-member team that won a 2005 Pulitzer for breaking news. The only other journalist to be transferred to the Iraqi central criminal court was **Abdul Ameer Younis Hussein**, a CBS

News cameraman. He was arrested by the U.S. military in March 2005, held for a year, transferred to the Iraqi court in March 2006 and acquitted that month.

BAKU: **Eynulla Fatullayev**, editor of the newspapers *Realni Azerbaijan* and *Gundelik Azerbaijan*, was sentenced to eight years and six months in jail last autumn, the eighth journalist in Azerbaijan to be imprisoned for defamation and other criminal charges. He had received death threats, and his father was kidnapped and threatened with death, forcing Fatullayev to suspend publication of his papers for two months in exchange for his father's release.

In a letter to Azerbaijan President Ilham Aliyev, **Tala Dowlatshahi** and **Larry Martz** of the OPC Freedom of the Press Committee wrote, "Your authorities also continue to pressure independent media by restricting access to supposedly public information, obstructing newspaper printing, distribution and advertising, and by filing libel

(Continued on Page 6)

OPC HOLIDAY PARTY

**Rockefeller Center
Club Quarters
with a view of the tree
25 West 51 Street**

**Monday, January 7
6 to 9 p.m.**

Open bar, buffet, dessert and coffee
\$75 per person

Advance Reservations Essential

212-626-9220

(Continued From Page 5)

actions and imposing huge fines.”

BRUSSELS: The European Court of Human Rights awarded damages to German reporter **Hans-Martin Tillack** in November for a police raid of his home after he published articles alleging fraud in the European Union’s statistical agency, Eurostat. In its ruling, the court said the right to protect the identity of sources is an essential pillar of freedom of the press. In 2004 when he was Brussels correspondent for the German magazine *Stern*, Tillack was detained for several hours while police raided his house and seized 16 boxes of documents, two archive boxes, two computers and four cellphones. The raid followed the 2002 publication of Tillack’s articles on the fraud allegations. The court awarded him 10,000 Euros (about U.S. \$14,000) in damages and 30,000 Euros (about U.S. \$42,000) for costs and expenses. Tillack now is a *Stern* investigative political reporter in Berlin.

COLUMBIA, Maryland: OPC member **Walter Cronkite**, 91, now is a weekly commentator on Retirement Living TV, a channel that targets viewers 55 and older. The former CBS News anchor delivers editorial commentaries each Tuesday on Retirement Living’s two-hour noontime program, “Daily Café.”

HONG KONG: The Foreign Correspondents’ Club feted two longtime British members on their birthdays last year. **Claire Hollingworth**, who was 96 on October 10, scored a world scoop on September 1, 1939 when she telephoned her *Daily Telegraph* editor in London from Poland to report that German warplanes were bombing Krakow, starting World War II in Europe.

A few weeks before Hollingworth’s birthday, **Tony Lawrence**, who came to Asia in 1956 as a BBC correspondent and since 1974 has been a freelance broadcaster, turned 95. Lawrence was the Club’s president, from 2000 to 2001.



Hollingworth



Lawrence

HONOLULU: **John Roderick**, 91, suffered a mini-stroke and underwent surgery to implant a heart pacemaker last autumn. In December, the retired AP correspondent reported to “People” that he was “almost totally recovered” and the December *Bulletin* report on his book *Minka* “boosted my spirits enormously.”

ISLAMABAD: **Zubair Ahmed Mujahid**, a senior journalist on *Jang*, an Urdu daily, and **Mehrunisa Khan**, widow of a murdered journalist on *Ausaf*, also an Urdu daily, were killed this past November. Mujahid, who wrote a weekly column that often criticized police and landowners for mistreating the poor, was fatally shot by an unidentified man on a motorcycle. Less than a week earlier, Khan, was murdered. Her husband and brother-in-law were murdered in 2006, and she was killed apparently to silence her demands that her husband’s killers be punished.

KINSHASA, Congo: Two local journalists, **Patrick Kikuko Wilungula** and **Serge Maheshe**, were killed in eastern Congo last year, and the government closed 22 private TV channels and 16 radio stations. Then in October, Sylvain Ngabu, Congo’s minister of higher education, invited two journalists of Horizon 22, a private TV station, to his office and ordered five police officers to assault them, the OPC Press Freedom Committee wrote in a letter to Congolese President Joseph Kabila. News director **Heustache Namunanika** escaped, but cameraman **Didier Lifumbwa** was beaten and dragged from the office. The attack occurred after the two journalists broadcast questions about the minister’s suspension of a university chancellor.

MUNICH: **Boots Duque**, OPC office assistant, and her twin sister, **Jojo Duque-De Leon**, visited Munich and Vienna in November and reported to the *Bulletin*: “We visited almost all top major churches and got dizzy with the beauty and histories of the Catholic churches, palaces and castles; Mozart’s House, made sure we drank German beer in Munich and in the Bavarian alps, and tasted renowned coffee and pastries in both Munich and Vienna. Weather was freezing.” Duque visited the

International Press Club of Munich, an OPC reciprocal club, and discussed club business with the Munich manager, **Eva Otremba**. “The Munich club is directly across the main Marienplatz, where the dancing giant-sized clock, Glockenspiel, dances every 11 a.m. and noon.”

NEW YORK: In a \$5 billion acquisition deal finalized this past summer, Australian media mogul **Rupert Murdoch**’s News Corporation took control of Dow Jones & Company in December. Changes in top management followed to make way for some of Murdoch’s people. Australian journalist **Robert Thomson** became publisher of the Dow Jones-owned *Wall Street Journal*. He was editor of the Murdoch-owned *Times* of London and before that was editor of the U.S. edition of *The Financial Times*. **Leslie Hinton**, executive chairman of News International whose ties to Murdoch go back four decades, became CEO of Dow Jones. Leaving the company were **Gordon Crovitz**, *Wall Street Journal* publisher, and **Richard Zannino**, Dow Jones CEO, with a payout around \$19 million.

Meanwhile, signs are growing that **James Murdoch** may succeed his father, Rupert Murdoch, as the top executive in News Corporation. James is scheduled to become chairman and chief executive of News Corporation’s business in Europe and Asia, company officers said in December. The new post makes Murdoch, 34, Rupert’s youngest son, the company’s No. 3 executive behind his father and **Peter Chernin**, president of News Corporation. “Mr. Murdoch, who is 76, has been adamant that the person who takes over his empire will have a Murdoch surname – meaning Mr. Chernin has hit his ceiling,” **Tim Arango** reported in *The New York Times*. Murdoch’s elder son, **Lachlan Murdoch**, 35, was once viewed as his



Richard Zannino



James Murdoch

father's successor, but he resigned from the company two years ago "after he felt his father was micromanaging businesses that were his responsibility," *The Times* reported.

While all this was going on, an almost unbelievable faux pas caused Rupert Murdoch's photograph to be displayed in the newsroom of his arch rival in Sydney. Murdoch publishes several newspapers in Australia including *The Australian* in competition with the Fairfax newspapers that include the *Sydney Morning Herald*. Murdoch's photo was discovered among the decorations on a pillar in the new Sydney offices of Fairfax Media the night before they were inspected by Fairfax chairman **Ron Walker** and CEO **David Kirk**.

"It seems that a designer wanted a media image and picked one of Murdoch, thinking he was Fairfax's owner," according to a newsroom source quoted by **Susan Bray DeLong**, an Australian journalist who covered the Vietnam War.

OPC member **John Burman** joined *Forbes* last September as Special Project Director. A memo to the magazine's staff said, "John will be developing globally focused business and editorial projects and databases. These will be focused on the entertainment industry and related media industries." Before joining *Forbes*, Burman spent 17 years in Los Angeles with *The Hollywood Reporter*, a film, TV and video weekly. He was the paper's international general manager when he left for New York.



From left, Dmitry Murartov, Adela Navarro Bellos and Mazhar Abbas

The Committee to Protect Journalists honored four foreign journalists at a November dinner in the Waldorf-Astoria attended by 900 guests who raised \$1.4 million. Honored were **Dmitry**

Muratov of Russia, editor of *Novaya Gazeta*, three of whose reporters have been killed; **Mazhar Abbas**, Pakistan, who is on a hit list; **Adela Navarro Bello** of *Zeta* magazine in Mexico, two of whose journalists have been killed; and **Gao Qinrong**, China, who spent eight years in prison. OPC member **Tom Brokaw**, former NBC News anchor, was also honored.

Two national magazines have published statements questioning the accuracy of their articles from Iraq and Lebanon. *The New Republic* said its investigation questioned a July article by U.S. Army Private **Scott Thomas Beauchamp**, who claimed cruel behavior by men in his unit in Iraq. In the magazine's December 10 issue, editor **Franklin Foer** wrote, "In light of the evidence available to us, after months of intensive reporting, we can not be confident that the events in his pieces occurred in exactly the manner that he described them. Without that essential confidence, we cannot stand by these stories."

Freelancer **W. Thomas Smith Jr.**, a former U.S. Marine, wrote columns in *National Review Online* in September claiming that 4,000 to 5,000 Hezbollah soldiers had been deployed in the Christian sections of Beirut and that 200 armed Hezbollah militiamen were stationed in tents near Lebanon's parliament. **Kathryn Jean Lopez**, editor of *National Review Online*, said in an e-mail statement in December, "We have not been able to independently verify the reports. So far as I am concerned, they should not have been published as written." She called the article "misleading reporting from Lebanon."

The Reverend **Dr. Lillian Daniel**, daughter of the late UPI correspondent **Leon Daniel**, was the guest preacher at Riverside Church on November 11, and two of Leon's former colleagues in UPI's London bureau, **Jan Cawley** and **Brooke Kroeger**, were there to hear her preach. "I think Brooke and I were both teary seeing Lillian, whom we knew as a little girl, up on the altar of this majestic church speaking with such authority and

clarity and feeling," Cawley wrote in an e-mail to "People."

Starting at age six months, Daniel grew up in Tokyo, Bangkok, New Delhi, Manila, Hong Kong and London as her father moved from post to post with his wife, the late **Carobel Daniel**. With a doctor's degree, she now is senior minister at First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, in Glen Ellyn, Illinois.



Dr. Lillian Daniel

NEWARK, New Jersey: New Jersey State Attorney General Anne Milgram said a Newark police official violated New Jersey regulations in September by questioning two Brazilian journalists on their immigration status. **Roberto Lim**, editor of the weekly newspaper *Brazilian Voice*, and its photographer **Geraldo Carlos**, discovered a woman's body in a Newark alley and reported it to police. Investigating the death, Newark's deputy police chief asked the journalists about their immigration status. The attorney general said the question violated her directive against questioning crime scene witnesses on their immigration status. Issued in August, the order allows police to ask about immigration status only of persons arrested for indictable offenses or drunk driving.

OSH, Kyrgyzstan: The murder of **Alisher Saipov** apparently was the first contract killing of a journalist in Kyrgyzstan, a country with relatively more media freedom than its Central Asian neighbors, **David L. Stern** of *The New York Times* reported in November.



Alisher Saipov

Kyrgyzstan's ombudsman for human rights, Tursunbai Bakiruulu, said he believes that the Uzbek security services ordered Saipov's killing. "Logically there is only one scenario," he was quoted in *The Times*, though he said he had no evidence. A former contract reporter for Voice of America and the Moscow-

(Continued on Page 8)

(Continued From Page 7)

based Web site Ferghana.ru, Saipov, 26, an ethnic Uzbek, was a critic of Uzbekistan's authoritative government who wrote about torture in Uzbek prisons, clampdown on dissent, the nation's economic collapse and the rise of Islamic radicalism. Saipov was waiting with a friend for a taxi on a main street around 7 p.m. on October 24 when a gunman stepped out of the tree-lined darkness, shot him in the leg and fired two shots to his head when he fell to the ground.

PARIS: Seyoum Tsehaye, 54, an Eritrean journalist who has been held in jail since 2001, was selected as Journalist of the Year 2007 by Reporters Without Borders. Tsehaye started his reporting career in the mountains alongside separatist guerrillas of the Eritrean People's Liberation Front. After Eritrea won independence from Ethiopia, he became head of national television and then of radio before resigning in protest to the authoritarian direction of his former colleague, President Issaias Afewerki. Tsehaye then worked for the privately owned press which urged democratic reforms. He was arrested in a major roundup and imprisonment of reformers. In announcing the award, Reporters Without Borders said, "At least four journalists have died in prison in Eritrea over the last few years. The blame lies chiefly at the door of Issaias Afewerki, the highly authoritative and obdurate president of the country since its independence in 1993."

Reporters Without Borders made these other awards: The Norway-based Democratic Voice of Burma TV and Radio, founded in 1992 by pro-democracy Burmese students, "one of the most reliable sources of news during the crisis in Burma;" The Journalistic Freedom Observatory in Iraq "for its vital role in exposing violence and murder against journalists;" Egyptian blogger **Kareem Amer**, 23, who was sentenced to four years in jail for posting on his blog criticism of President Hosni Mubarak and the Islamist grip on the nation's universities; and to **Hu Jia** and **Zeng Jinyan**, human rights campaigners in China "who are under house arrest. Holed up at home... What they want is for the government to make major changes before the opening of the Olympic



PHILADELPHIA: Signe Wilkinson, winner of several OPC Thomas Nast awards for cartoons on foreign affairs, is drawing a comic strip "Family Tree" that will start appearing in newspapers in January. Syndicated by United Features, the strip is about a family with two teenagers who are trying to live green in America. OPC member Wilkinson works for the *Philadelphia Daily News*.

Games, including releasing all those jailed for expressing themselves freely."

◆
Marcus Bleasdale, who won the 2006 OPC Olivier Rebbot Award for magazine photography, was elected to membership in the VII Photo Agency that distributes the work of prominent photojournalists. Bleasdale has spent more than eight years covering the Congo conflict and has photographed in Sudan, Chad, Somalia, Uganda, Nepal and China.

RYBINSK, Russia: A Rybinsk court in December ordered **Andrei Novikov** released from a psychiatric hospital where he had been committed after writing articles critical of the military campaign in Chechnya. Novikov, an online reporter for Chechenpress, a news service tied to the Chechen separatist government, was convicted in 2006 of sedition and inciting violence because of two e-mail messages he sent to newspapers. He was sentenced to three years in prison, but a psychiatric commission determined that he had shown "anti-social behavior" and ordered him committed to a hospital. In recent years, several journalists and opposition activists have been sent to psychiatric hospitals in Russia, AP reported. Reporters Without Borders said, "It seems that Russia's special services and psychiatrists are still empowered to take charge of anyone whose words or actions stray from the Kremlin line."

SAN FRANCISCO: Kevin Jones, a graduate journalism student at the University of California, Berkeley who

was driving the car in which journalist and author **David Halberstam** was killed, pleaded no contest in November to a charge of misdemeanor manslaughter. Sentencing is scheduled for February when Jones, 27, will receive the maximum 30 days in a work program. Witnesses said Jones ran a red light while making an illegal left turn last April, and his car was hit by another vehicle, killing Halberstam, 73. After speaking at the University of California, Halberstam sent an e-mail message offering \$20 an hour and a one-on-one journalism lesson to anyone who would drive him to an interview with Hall of Fame quarterback Y. A. Tittle. Jones accepted the offer.

SHANGHAI: While the number of newspapers in China has increased dramatically, their coverage of international news is declining, **Howard W. French** of *The New York Times* reported in a December dispatch from Shanghai. "Less than three decades ago, there were only a few dozen newspapers in the country, all of them state-run," French, an OPC member, wrote. "In 2005, according to one survey, China had 2,000 or more newspapers and 9,000 magazines, providing more in-depth coverage of events inside the country." But foreign news coverage is scarce, even on recent disturbances in neighboring countries Pakistan and Burma. Only a few state-run publications have correspondents in foreign countries including Xinhua, *People's Daily*, CCTV and China Radio International.

SUCRE, Bolivia: At least five journalists were beaten by police last November while trying to cover anti-

government protests. Punched and kicked before fleeing the area were **Aizar Raldes**, an Agence France Presse photographer; photographer **Ricardo Montero** and reporter **Pablo Ortiz** of *El Deber*; and **Adriana Gutiérrez** and **Pablo Tudela**, a reporter-photographer team from PAT-TV. Five Bolivians were killed and more than 100 injured in the riots. In a December letter to Bolivian President Juan Evo Morales Ayma, **Bill Collins** and **Larry Martz** of the OPC Press Freedom Committee asked "that you put an end to the police and civilian harassment of journalists covering the political protests in Bolivia."

TEL AVIV: On his 66th birthday last November 13, **Joe Galloway** addressed senior Israeli defense force officers in Tel Aviv and then had "a long, leisurely, wet birthday lunch" with **Sylvana Foa**, who lives in Israel. Galloway and Foa were UPI correspondents in Asia. Galloway, author of the best-selling *We Were Soldiers Once... And Young*, reported to "People" that his latest book, *We Are Soldiers Still: A Journey Back to the Battlefield of Vietnam*, will be published by Harper Collins next November on Veteran's Day.

UNITED NATIONS: U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki-moon presented the 12th annual awards of the United Nations Correspondents Association at a December dinner. Awards went to **Richard Branson**, owner of Virgin Airlines, for his support of environmental and humanitarian causes; **Lazaro Mabunda** of *O Pais*, Mozambique, and **Shakuntala Perera**, *Daily Mirror*, Sri Lanka, both for coverage of developmental issues; **Opheera McDoom**, Reuters, Sudan, **Maggie Fareley** and **Edmund Sanders**, *Los Angeles Times*, and **Godwin Nnanna**, *Businessday* Nigeria, for their print coverage of U.N. work in Darfur, Khartoum and the Ivory Coast; the Cairo bureau of NHK, Japan, **Martin Semukanya**, Channel Africa, South Africa, and **Talal Al-Haj**, Al-Arabiya, for electronic coverage of U.N. work in Somalia, Africa and the Arab world.

The awards committee, chaired by OPC member **Ian Williams**, said the winners "will share \$33,000 in prizes –

but it is the glory that counts!"

WASHINGTON: OPC member **Tom Curley**, president and CEO of The Associated Press, received a First Amendment Award from The Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press (RCFP) at an October black-tie dinner attended by some 350 people. Others who received the award were **Colbert I. King**, a member of *The Washington Post's* editorial board; **Nina Totenberg**, National Public Radio's legal affairs correspondent; and **Mark Goodman**, who was executive director of the Student Press Law Center in Arlington, Virginia for two decades until last September and now holds the Knight Chair in Scholastic Journalism at Kent State University.

OPC members on the original steering committee of the Washington-based Reporters Committee include **Murray Fromson**, **Mike Wallace**, **Walter Cronkite** and **Dan Rather**. In 1969 after Attorney General John Mitchell threatened to subpoena reporters and demand identification of their sources, Fromson, then with CBS News in Chicago, and the late **Anthony Lukas** of *The New York Times* called 33 journalists across the country to meet in Washington, where they founded the RCFP. The Committee provides free legal service to defend reporters against subpoenas and campaigns in favor of state and federal shield laws.

WEDDING



Nedra Pickler and Eric Conner

Eric Conner, a Fox news cameraman, first noticed **Nedra Pickler**, an AP reporter, during a White House news conference, but they both were too busy for Conner to speak to Pickler. In March 2006, they went to Cancún, Mexico, to cover President Bush's talks with the leaders of Mexico and Canada.

Arriving a few days before the con-

ference, Conner and Pickler joined other journalists at dinner. Conner made a beeline for Pickler. Her initial reaction was that he was not her type. She dated intellectual, urbane men while he was more of a "beer-drinking, football-watching guy," she told *The New York Times*. But as they danced, and she recalled, "He said, 'I see you at the White House every day, and it makes me happy every time I see you.' I barely knew this guy, and he knocked me off my feet when he said that." Pickler and Conner, both 32, were married November 24 by a municipal judge at the Casa Schuck hotel in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico.

PEOPLE REMEMBERED

Bill Hosokawa was born in Seattle, Washington, in 1915, the son of immigrants from Hiroshima, Japan. When he was majoring in journalism at the University of Washington, his faculty advisor told him he should transfer to another field because, "I don't think there's a newspaper publisher in the country who would hire



Bill Hosokawa

a Japanese boy." When he graduated in 1937, his professor's prophecy proved true for him, so he went to Asia. From 1939 to 1941, he was a reporter and editor on the *Singapore Herald* and the *Shanghai Times*, also writing for Hong Kong's *Far Eastern Economic Review*. He returned to the United States five weeks before Japan attacked Pearl Harbor. In 1942, Hosokawa and his family were among more than 110,000 Japanese-Americans sent to internment camps. "It was a great shock to be a free American citizen one day and the next to find your government has abandoned you," he later wrote. At the Heart Mountain internment camp in Wyoming, he organized a weekly newspaper and wrote a column on camp life for a local newspaper, the *Cody Enterprise*.

After World War II, Hosokawa

(Continued on Page 10)

People Remembered

(Continued From Page 9)

was hired by the *Denver Post*, and he reported from the Korean War, Japan and Vietnam for the *Post*. He spent 38 years with the *Post* as a reporter editor and columnist and was ombudsman for Denver's *Rocky Mountain News* from 1985 to 1992 when he retired. For 25 years, he served as Japan's honorary consul general in Colorado. He wrote 10 books including *Nisei: The Quiet Americans* [1969] and two autobiographies, *Thirty-Five Years in the Frying Pan* [1978] and *Out of the Frying Pan* [1998].

Hosokawa died of natural causes November 9 in Sequim, Washington, where he had moved recently to be closer to family members. He was 92.



Antoine (Tony) Yared, 80, a former AP foreign correspondent who lived in Bethesda, Maryland, died November 17 of an apparent aortic aneurism. Tony reported from the Middle East and Southeast Asia before becoming a United Nations official based over the years in Geneva, Ankara and Vienna. He also was the U.S. representative of Reporters Sans Frontières, a consultant to the News Museum in Washington and a 20-year volunteer at Washington's National Gallery of Art. Survivors include his wife of 42 years, **Roberta (Bobby) Roth Yared**, a former UPI correspondent in Southeast Asia, their two sons and four grandchildren. Roth and Yared met when they were on assignments in Laos, and they were married in Jakarta, where Roth was based.



Dilip Ganguly, 57, an AP correspondent who covered the Gulf War, the Rwandan genocide, the Bosnia War and South Asia, died in Calcutta, India last July 29 after suffering a brain hemorrhage earlier that month. He joined AP in New Delhi in 1986. After serving as correspondent in Colombo, Sri Lanka, Ganguly was transferred to Calcutta this April to bolster AP's coverage of India's emergence as a global power.

OPC Press Freedom Committee Meets Heroic Journalist Hollman Morris

by Norman Schorr and Larry Martz

Two years ago, Hollman Morris's babysitter walked out of his front door and found a funeral wreath on the front steps. It was one of many specific and implied death threats Morris has received in the past decade. His investigative television show "Contravia" (Countercurrent) fearlessly exposes human rights abuses by all sides



Hollman Morris

in Colombia: the leftist guerrillas, the government troops who try to suppress them, and the right-wing paramilitary groups whose abuses rival the guerrillas but who somehow escape the attention of the government troops.

Morris, 39, is being honored by Human Rights Watch for his work. In New York recently, he met with members of the OPC Freedom of the Press Committee to thank them for a recent letter urging Colombia's President Alvaro Uribe to guarantee Morris's safety. Attending the lunch at Club Quarters were committee co-chairmen **Norman Schorr** and **Larry Martz** and members **Bill Collins** and **Minky Worden**, who is also media director for Human Rights Watch.

Morris said he has personal protection while he is at home and working in Bogota, Colombia's capital. But the stories he pursues are mainly in rural areas, many of them remote, and to get candid information he travels with just one cameraman. His sources tip him off about such events as the discovery of mass graves or a paramilitary attack on a village, and he and his cameraman head out to report the story. But he is not focused solely on stereotypical atrocities; "Contravia" also chronicles drug-running, landmine injuries, abuses of indigenous people, the killings of trade unionists, and the recruiting of child soldiers for both guerrilla and paramilitary groups.

Morris had to leave Colombia briefly seven years ago because of death threats, and his phone is routinely tapped. President Álvaro Uribe Vélez, who has attacked journalists and human

An excerpt from the Press Freedom Committee's November 6 letter to H.E. Alvaro Uribe, President of Colombia:

Despite your progress in reducing Colombia's widespread violence, for which we congratulate you, the murder rate and number of kidnappings in your country remain high. According to the 2006 IPI World Press Freedom Review, published by the International Press Institute (IPI), your country remains "one of the most dangerous countries in the world for journalists." In particular, the IPI report states, "journalists working outside Bogota, Colombia's capital city, who attempt to investigate corruption and drug-trafficking or report on the country's decade-long civil war, continue to face threats of para-militaries and left-wing groups."

We join Amnesty International in "urging authorities to take action to guarantee Morris's safety and provide him with adequate protection in accordance with his wishes, so he can continue his legitimate work as a journalist in safety."

rights defenders by name, recently accused Morris of having links to leftist guerrillas. President Uribe later withdrew the statement. But in its letter to Uribe, the OPC committee said that a video making similar allegations was still being circulated by right-wing groups, which could put Morris's life at further risk.

Minky Worden said Human Rights Watch is trying to connect Morris with people who could finance his program, guaranteeing it will stay on the air and free him from constant fundraising. Morris himself said that no matter what threats he receives, he is determined to go on with his work. "I'm convinced that we have to build this," he said. "We have to strengthen this democracy, we have to create a more inclusive country, and this requires the help and sacrifice of everyone."

Morris's Human Rights Defender Award honored him for "courage and unflinching dedication."

Q&A With Naka Nathaniel

(Continued From Page 3)

version of that obscenity. Knowing that, it only made sense that we should team up. (By the way, in Arabic-speaking countries, he goes by Nicholas and I use Nathaniel.)

We've covered a lot of territory together in the past five years. We've gone from Alaska to Zimbabwe and visited the Axis of Evil. Nick's been great at understanding the value of going beyond print to tell stories. We had a lot of early successes especially with the stories of Srey Mom and Srey Neth in Cambodia. The flash presentation that I made brought the story to life. The soft defiance in the girl's voices and the shrieks of Srey Mom's family when she returned to her village were beyond description. If anyone could have come close to writing those sounds it would have been Nick. He's among the preeminent writers of our time. Yet, Nick took a leap and let me tell the story in a way that had never been attempted. This notion of experimentation has carried on as we moved on to video and then to different ventures like "Win a Trip" and "Your Turn to Tell the Story."

I don't think there's anything wrong with a bit of duplication. There are a lot of different ways to tell a story and some of the stories that we're telling are too important to be told in only one way. Our audience should get the story in whatever way is best for them and it doesn't matter to me if it comes from the column, watching a video, listening to a podcast, seeing it on another news outlet like CNN, having a member of our audience re-tell the tale or even reading it in Nick's forthcoming book.

New Books:

(Continued From Page 12)

Rebecca Fannin in *Silicon Dragon: How China Is Winning the Tech Race* [New York: McGraw-Hill]. In her book, Fannin, an OPC member, includes 12 profiles of China's leading tech entrepreneurs, from copycats to innovators. "A new generation of enterprising Chinese innovators is leading China through a tech revolution that threatens to surpass Silicon Valley," Fannin wrote in describing her book. "These whiz kids have advanced technologies in mobile communications, software, web 2.0, digital maps, solar energy and lighting. Backed by American venture capitalists, several of the Chinese startups in *Silicon Dragon* are poised to go public on NASDAQ or the New York Stock Exchange. Of course, not everyone is a



winner [and challenges include] a small talent pool of qualified managers, hyper-competition, little intellectual property protection, censorship and changing government regulations." Fannin, international editor of the Hong Kong financial weekly *Asian Venture Capital Journal*, traveled to Shanghai, Beijing and beyond to interview new entrepreneurs.

NORTH AMERICA

"WHEN NIXON WAS GONE, the country began to reexamine its compass in an effort to get its bearings again." That's what **Tom Brokaw** told **Sherryl Connelly** of the *New York Daily News*. Brokaw, the former "NBC Nightly News" anchor and an OPC member, wrote about people who lived through the Great Depression and World War II in his book *The Greatest Generation*. Now he describes his own generation in *Boom!: Voices of the 60s – Personal Reflections on the 60s and Today* [New York: Random House]. People who came of age between President Kennedy's assassination in

1963 and President Nixon's resignation in 1974 became "the largest, best-educated and wealthiest generation in American history," Brokaw writes. For the book, he interviewed 50 people including Bill Clinton, Colin Powell, Karl Rove, Dick Cheney and *Rolling Stone* founder Jann Wenner. "Brokaw also weaves in his own story – his rise from rookie newsman in Omaha to NBC anchor," **Fern Siegel** wrote in a *New York Post* review. In the *Daily News* interview, Brokaw, who came of age as a journalist in the 60s, ticked off the issues that emerged from the 1960s: "Racial inequality, distrust of government, a break with the conventions of white-male establishment, including the rise of women's rights; environmental awareness; the rise of drug culture; polarization [in] politics."

— by Al Kaff

OPC: What's it like to be a guest blogger on nytimes.com while Nicholas Kristof is on leave to write a book?

NATHANIEL: Being a part of the team that has been filling in for Nick has been a lot of fun. There have been some great topics covered and we hoped to continue elements after Nick returns. It's nice to be able to tie work from earlier trips to current events. Almost everything is still relevant and it gives folks who didn't subscribe to TimesSelect a chance to catch up on some great work that they might have missed.

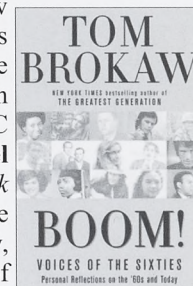
OPC: What's the editorial process for blogging for nytimes.com?

NATHANIEL: Everything goes through the NYT editing process. I handle the production on the blog and moderate the comments.

OPC: What gear do you travel with?

NATHANIEL: My basic kit has included a Mac laptop, a Sony PD-150 video camera, a small digital Leica (I don't use SLRs any more because I was tired of hearing the clicks in the audio of my video), a couple wireless microphone sets, a tripod, several external hard drives for video storage and if needed a high-speed satellite unit.

My video camera has been a true workhorse, but it's being retired in favor of a model that shoots hi-definition. I try to travel as light as possible — we're in a lot of difficult environments and the ability to move quickly is paramount.



New Books

GLOBAL

“A SA FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT for National Public Radio, I traveled to places like Iraq, Afghanistan and Indonesia. Unhappy places,” OPC member **Eric Weiner** wrote. “What if, I wondered, I spent a year seeking not the world’s well-trodden trouble spots but, rather, its unheralded happy places?” That’s exactly what he did, and with humor and insight he recorded his findings in *The Geography of Bliss: One Grump’s Search for the Happiest Places in the World* [New York: Twelve Books].

In the Netherlands, Weiner learned that drugs, prostitution and cycling “can easily lead to happiness, providing that certain precautions are taken. Wearing a helmet while cycling, for instance.” A Swiss doctor told him that cleanliness was the source of happiness in Switzerland: “Have you seen our public toilets? They are very clean.”

“Clearly, Bhutan’s low crime rate – murder is almost unheard of – contributes to the overall happiness here. Bhutan is an upside down place. Here the number thirteen is considered lucky. Children greet you with

‘bye bye.’ The King wants to abolish himself.

“If money can buy happiness, or at least rent it for awhile, then surely Qatar, by some measures the wealthiest country in the world, must also be the happiest. Places like Qatar attract people running away from something: a bad marriage, a criminal record, an inappropriate email sent company-wide and other sundry unhappiness.

“People who know Iceland told me that to really get at the heart of the Icelandic soul... I needed to observe them in their natural state: pickled. Icelanders possess a deep love for the game of chess, an abiding loyalty to their friends, an obsession with getting on the map and a high tolerance for idiosyncrasy.

“Moldova [is] the world’s least happy country. It strikes me, not for the first time, that nobody wants to be in Moldova, including the Moldovans.”

In Thailand, the author asked a Thai woman why Thais seem so happy. She replied, ‘Thai people are not serious about anything. Whatever it is we can accept it.’ In the U.S. when you trip over something and fall, no one interferes. It’s as if nothing happened. But Thai people? We laugh and laugh non-

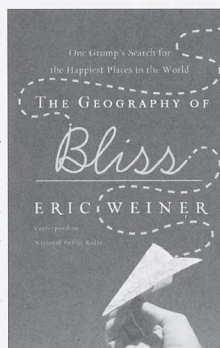
stop. We still run over and help, but we’re laughing at the same time.

“For the English, life is not about happiness but muddling through, getting by. The British reserve makes me uneasy. Not once has anyone here told me to ‘have a nice day.’ I get the distinct impression they don’t want me to have a nice day or, at the very least, don’t care if I do. Britain is a great place for grumps like me. There are a lot of fellow grumps to hang out with.

“Someone once told me that if you want to know India, just stand on a street corner, any street corner, and spin around 360 degrees. You will see it all. The best and worst of humanity. The ridiculous and the sublime. The profane and the profound. The beauty of life in India [is] no matter how low your rung, there is always someone beneath it.”

The author concludes, “My passport is tucked into my desk drawer again. I am relearning the pleasures of home. The simple joys of waking up in the same bed each morning. The pleasant realization that familiarity breeds contentment and not only contempt.”

A former *New York Times* reporter, Weiner now reports for National Public Radio from Washington, D.C. Formerly he was based in New Delhi, Jerusalem and Tokyo.



ASIA

THE NEXT STEVE JOBS may come from China, writes

(Continued on Page 11)

Coming Up...

OPC Holiday Party

Monday, January 7

6 to 9 p.m.

Rockefeller Center Club Quarters

RSVP: 212-626-9220

Reservations Essential

OPC Book Night

A Shattered Peace by David Andelman

Tuesday, January 15

Reception 6 p.m., Conversation

With Craig Whitney 6:45 p.m.

Club Quarters, 40 West 45 Street

Overseas Press Club of America
40 West 45 Street
New York, NY 10036 USA